



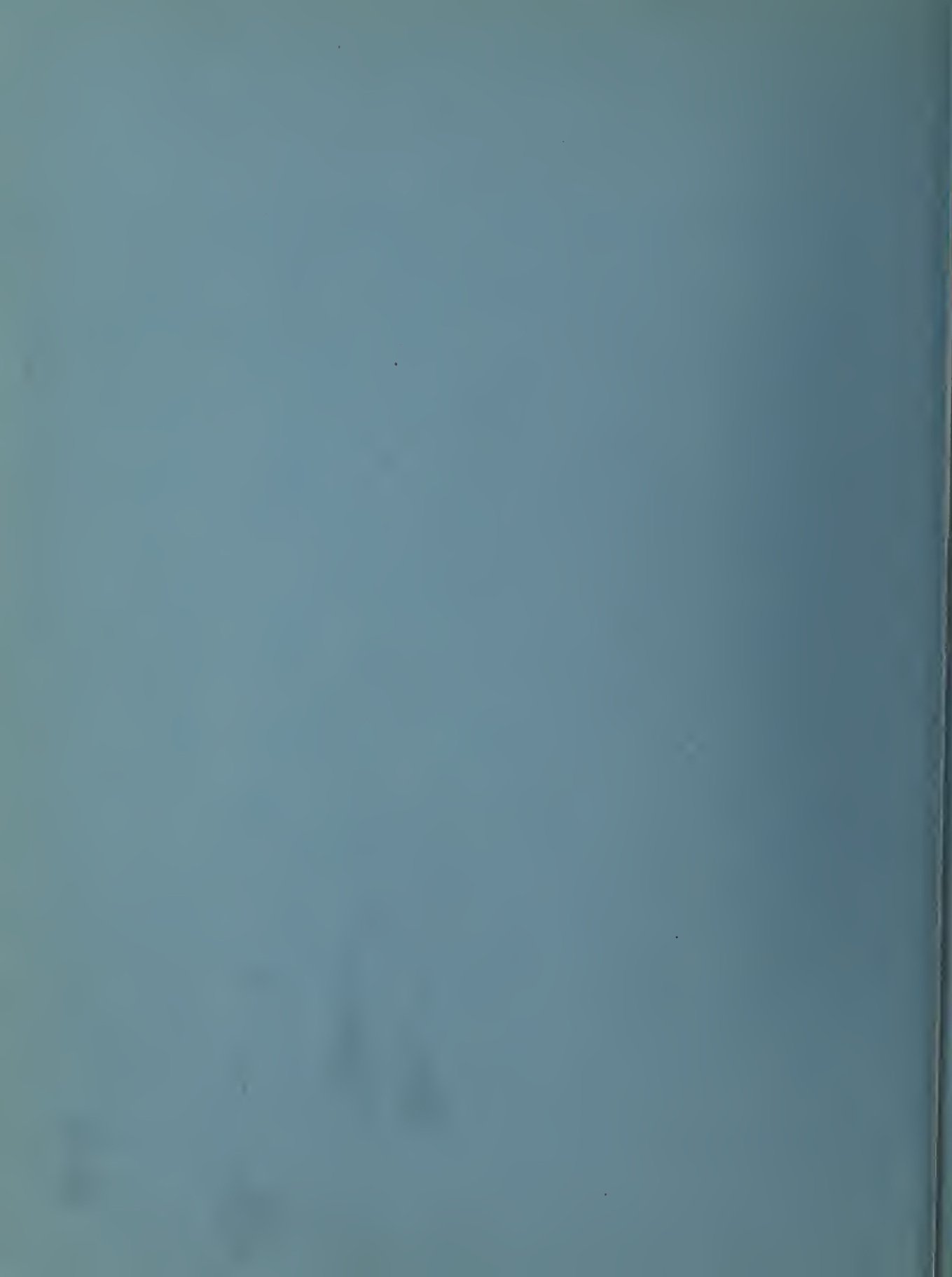
HAILSHAM RURAL



DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1964

L. A. COLLINS, M.B., B.CH., D.P.M., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health



A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
TO THE
H A I L S H A M R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
1 9 6 4

To the Chairman and Members of the Hailsham Rural District Council,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year, 1964.

An outbreak of typhoid fever in Scotland caused extra work for the Public Health Department of this Rural District. This is a good example of how epidemiological methods are being used in the prevention of disease.

From the vital statistics embodied in this report it is clear that the health of this district compares favourably with the rest of the country. It is particularly cheering to note the continuing decline in the mortality of tuberculosis, and this encourages one to hope that eventually this disease will be conquered.

There is still an urgent need for more housing, but it is gratifying that attention is being given to the special housing needs of old people.

I am grateful to the members of the public health staff for their hard work during the year, and all have contributed in some way to the compilation of this report.

I wish once again to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and those Members of the Council, who have taken an interest in the work of the Public Health Department during the year.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. A. COLLINS

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health (part-time),
also School Medical Officer for East
Sussex County Council.

Dr. L. A. Collins, M.B.,
B.Ch., D.P.M., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Meat and Food Inspector

L. E. Scott, Cert S.I.B.
Cert M.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors
and Meat and Food Inspectors

M. F. Warman, Cert S.I.B.
Cert M.I.
R. R. Creasey, Cert S.I.B.
Cert M.I.
F.A.P.H.I.
A. J. Page, Cert S.I.B.
Cert M.I.

Student Public Health Inspector

P. Barton

Sanitary Assistant and Rodent Operator

J. F. Stanford

Rodent Operator

R. Cousins

Chief Clerk

R. S. Oak

Clerical Assistants

Mrs. M. Frost (Until 13.9.64)
Mrs. P. Westgate
Miss M. Locker (From 7.9.64)

Official Address

Public Health Department,
Cortlandt,
Hailsham.

Tel. No. Hailsham 1122

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The total number of notifications was 83 compared with 606 for the previous year. This large reduction is due to the fact that this was not an epidemic year for measles. Eight cases were admitted to hospital compared with only two in the previous year, but this number is very low compared with an average admission of 36 cases per annum ten years ago. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Typhoid or Paratyphoid during the year.

Measles

There were 28 notifications of measles compared with 556 cases in 1963 and 53 in 1962. There was no epidemic, the cases being scattered throughout the year and most of them were imported cases from other districts.

Whooping Cough

There were 19 cases of Whooping Cough compared with 5 cases in the previous year. Of these 10 cases had been immunised against whooping cough, 8 cases had not been immunised and in one case it was not known. It is probable that many cases go unrecognised as immunisation may mask the severer symptoms of the disease.

Scarlet Fever

This disease retained the relatively benign nature that it has exhibited during recent years. There were only 7 notifications which compared with 5 for the previous year.

Meningococcal Meningitis

There was no connection between the two cases of Meningococcal Meningitis admitted to hospital in January. It is of interest that two other cases of suspected meningitis admitted to hospital in May were proved, in fact, to be cases of Sonne Dysentery.

Encephalitis

There was one case of encephalitis notified in the year, this was a boy aged 6 years with a viral complication of mumps.

Diphtheria

During the last ten years there has been no case of diphtheria in the district.

Dysentery

Of the 16 cases of dysentery, 14 were of the Sonne type and occurred in April, May and June in Hailsham and Heathfield. There were frequently several cases in one family. The other two cases were non-specific dysentery.

Food Poisoning

There was no connection between the two cases of food poisoning notified in the year.

The first case was a baby aged 7 months shown to be infected with *Salmonella panama*. Despite special sensitivity tests carried out by the Public Health Laboratory to find out to which antibiotics this particular organism was sensitive, and notwithstanding some four courses of varying antibiotic treatment, the infection was not cleared up and the baby was still a symptomless carrier at the end of the year.

The other case was a man aged 18 years, who was found to be infected with *Salmonella typhi-murium*. He worked as a Butcher's Assistant in London and it was considered that he had acquired the infection in London. He was allowed to return to work after four consecutive specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory had proved him to be free from infection.

Winter Vomiting Disease

This disease still remains rather troublesome in the schools and eight schools reported a total of over 200 cases during the year. Fortunately the disease generally lasts for only one or two days but sometimes it persists rather longer.

Typhoid Fever - Suspected Canned Meats

Although there was no case of Typhoid Fever in the district, on account of the Aberdeen outbreak, considerable work was undertaken by the department in the tracing of 6 lb. tins of canned meat bearing certain serial numbers as advised by the Ministry of Health. These were returned by the retailers to the distributors via their wholesalers.

It was found that a few such tins of meat had already been consumed without any apparent harmful consequences. One such partially used tin of corned beef was submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and proved to be satisfactory.

During the year there were also a number of Paratyphoid fever contacts or "at risk" cases who were visited and appropriately advised.

Tuberculosis

There were six new cases of respiratory tuberculosis compared with nine in the previous year. There was only one new case of non-respiratory tuberculosis.

There was only one death attributed to respiratory tuberculosis and this was a man over 65 years old.

It is very encouraging to note that tuberculosis is so steadily decreasing. Ten years ago there were 33 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis and 6 new cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis in the course of the year.

Mass X-ray

The Mass X-ray unit was not stationed in the district during the year.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

1962	Vaccinations	902	Re-vaccinations	2,196	Total	3,098
1963	Vaccinations	215	Re-vaccinations	204	Total	419
1964	Vaccinations	407	Re-vaccinations	263	Total	670

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The administration of the diphtheria immunisation scheme is centralised with the County Council but I personally conduct all diphtheria immunisation clinics in the district. During the year regular clinics were held at Heathfield, Hailsham and Polegate and occasional clinics at Alfriston, Arlington, Chiddingly, Cross-in-Hand, East Hoathly, Hankham, Hellingly, Herstmonceux, Laughton, Maynards Green, Ninfield, Pevensey, Punnetts Town, Selmeston, Waldron and Willingdon.

A total of 70 complete courses and 662 booster doses were given at these clinics.

The Ministry of Health has provided the following figures for the immunisation state of children in East Sussex compared with the whole of England and Wales.

The percentages immunised at 31st December, 1965 were as follows:-

Children born in 1963

	<u>Diphtheria</u>	<u>Whooping Cough</u>	<u>Poliomyelitis</u>
East Sussex	87%	86%	79%
England and Wales	69%	68%	60%

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Section 47

No formal action was taken under the above Acts and there is no doubt of the invaluable work done by the various Old People's Welfare Committees and other Voluntary bodies in helping old people to live in their homes.

However, the time comes when some people are incapable of looking after themselves and then it is generally possible to persuade them to accept accommodation in an old persons home on a voluntary basis.

Section 50

An elderly spinster had been found dead in a caravan on an approved site in January and despite numerous enquiries no relatives could be traced. It was, however, not necessary for the Council to invoke their powers under this Section as the Site Operator agreed to arrange for and accept funeral responsibility for the burial in view of the fact that the deceased had lived on this caravan site for over twelve years.

CANCER OF THE LUNG

There were 32 deaths due to cancer of the lung compared with 36 in the previous year. However, throughout the country the number of deaths continues to rise and this represents a great wastage of lives. There is no doubt that there is a direct causal relationship between cigarette smoking and lung cancer, the incidence of this disease in heavy smokers being over thirty times as high as in some comparable groups of non-smokers.

The lung cancer mortality is about four times higher than that from road accidents.

More recent work has also shown that there is a higher incidence of cancer of the bladder in smokers than in non-smokers. As cigarette smoking is a very difficult habit to break it is most important that young people should be persuaded not to start but unfortunately so many seem to have already started before they have left school.

VITAL STATISTICS

The corrected death rate was 10.1 per thousand compared with 11.3 for 1963 and 11.3 for the whole of England and Wales.

The corrected birth rate was 16.0 per thousand compared with 16.7 for 1963 and 18.4 for the whole of England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 15.1 compared with 25.9 for 1963 and 20.0 for the whole of England and Wales.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

STATISTICS

Area in acres	94,668
Census population (1961)	42,420
Population estimated to middle year	46,670
Number of inhabited houses	17,036
Rateable value	£1,604,610.
Sum represented by penny rate	£6,452.10s.9d.

Total deaths per 1,000 population (not corrected)	17.2
Comparability factor	0.59
Total deaths per 1,000 population (corrected)	10.1
Senile mortality as percentage of total deaths (65 and over)	80.9%
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	Nil

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	570	291	279
Illegitimate	28	13	15
	—	—	—
	598	304	294
	—	—	—

Live births per 1,000 population (not corrected)	12.8
Comparability factor	1.25
Live births per 1,000 population (corrected)	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total births	4.6%

<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	10	5	5
Illegitimate	1	1	-
	—	—	—
	11	6	5
	—	—	—

Stillbirths per 1,000 live and stillbirths	18.1
Total live and stillbirths	609

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	8	7	1
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	—	—	—
	9	7	2
	—	—	—

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	15.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	35.7

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	3	3	-
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	—	—	—
	4	3	1
	—	—	—

Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 6.7

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	3	3	-
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	—	—	—
	4	3	1
	—	—	—

Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) 6.7

Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths) 24.6

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Infantile Mortality</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
Hailsham Rural	16.0	15.1	10.1
England and Wales	18.4	20.0	11.3

CASES NOTIFIED OR ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL AND TOTAL DEATHS

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Measles	28	-	-
Whooping Cough	19	-	-
Scarlet Fever	7	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	2	2	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-
Encephalitis	1	1	-
Dysentery	16	2	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-
Mumps with pregnancy	-	1	-
Mumps	-	1	-
Glandular Fever	-	1	-

NUMBER OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL EACH MONTH

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Meningitis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glandular Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Mumps	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

Notifiable Diseases	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs	3 yrs	4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25 yrs & over	TOTAL
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Meningitis	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	-	1	3	2	-	-	7
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	1	5	16
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	3	-	1	1	-	12	1	1	-	19
Measles	-	4	4	4	3	10	1	2	-	28

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-14 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-44 years	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
45-64 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	3	3	-	1	1	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	25	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	16
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .	33	35
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1
16. Diabetes	5	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	48	122
18. Coronary disease, angina	93	83
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	6
20. Other heart diseases	45	62
21. Other circulatory diseases	12	20
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	7	30
24. Bronchitis	24	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	4	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	4
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	20	23
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
34. All other accidents	9	11
35. Suicide	4	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	1
	358	446

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Main water is supplied throughout the area by one statutory water undertaking, namely the Eastbourne Waterworks Company and the many analyses of the water supply showed that it was of a high standard of purity.

During the year the Council agreed to carry out one further extension of the water main to serve an isolated group of houses and farms in the parish of Chiddingly. It was necessary to ask the property owners en route to make capital contributions so as to reduce to reasonable proportions, the Council's costs for the extension.

Now that water mains are available throughout the area, the opportunity was taken of obtaining samples of water from wells at those houses not connected to the water main. The majority of the analyses showed that the water in these wells was polluted and unsatisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes and the owners were therefore requested to lay on water from the main.

It was not necessary for the Council to take formal action under the Public Health Act, 1936 as amended by the Water Act in any case as the owners of the properties proved co-operative and laid on main water when asked to do so.

Extension of Mains

The following lengths of water main were laid in the parishes of Alfriston, Berwick, Eastdean, Hailsham, Heathfield, Hellingly, Ninfield, Pevensey, Polegate, Waldron, Warbleton, Westham and Willingdon.

In most cases these extensions were in connection with new building development.

346 yards of $\frac{3}{4}$ " main	2,511 yards of 4" main
1,081 yards of 1" main	1,843 yards of 5" main
426 yards of $1\frac{1}{4}$ " main	481 yards of 6" main
254 yards of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " main	2 yards of 7" main
449 yards of 2" main	20 yards of 9" main
4,455 yards of 3" main	410 yards of 15" main

Total length of new main laid is 12,278 yards or 6 miles, 1,718 yards.

DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES

The following table details the distribution of piped supplies and from which it will be seen that approximately 94.7% of the population is provided with main water.

Parish	Estimated Population Supplied by Public or Private Main	Number of houses supplied		
		By Public Main	By Stand Pipe	By Private Main
Alciston	129	25	-	23
Alfriston	545	225	-	-
Arlington	370	132	-	-
Berwick	257	77	-	10
Chalvington	126	44	-	-
Chiddingly	575	233	-	-
Eastdean	1,103	499	-	-
East Hoathly	535	198	-	-
Folkington	67	25	-	-
Friston	340	138	-	-
Hailsham	6,954	2,580	-	-
Heathfield	3,332	1,221	-	-
Hellingly	3,186	914	-	-
Herstmonceux	1,602	562	-	-
Hooe	253	99	-	-
Horam	1,668	570	-	-
Jevington	121	10	37	-
Laughton	527	109	-	-
Litlington	111	43	-	-
Lullington	30	11	-	-
Ninfield	1,145	410	-	-
Pevensay	2,906	1,357	-	-
Polegate	6,309	2,450	-	-
Ripe	388	62	-	-
Selmeston	87	32	-	-
Waldron	2,885	934	-	-
Warbleton	1,002	361	-	-
Wartling	440	141	-	-
Westdean	58	24	6	-
Westham	1,990	712	-	-
Willingdon	4,933	1,921	-	-
Wilmington	223	77	-	-
	44197	16,196	43	33

* Note - The figures for estimated population supplied by main, include residential caravan sites.

Drainage and Sewerage

The new sewers and sewage purification works for the parish of East Hoathly were completed during the year and brought into use. These sewers and works were required to replace old and defective sewers which discharged into cesspools with overflows conducted to ditches. I am also pleased to report that the provision of new sewers and sewage purification plant for Windmill Hill in the parishes of Herstmonceux and Wartling were completed during the year. The majority of the properties have already been connected and the former nuisances which arose from the unsatisfactory drainage systems at the houses have now been abated.

In order to speed up the preparatory work for the provision of sewers and sewage disposal works for the parishes of Ninfield and Hooe, an aerial survey was obtained and preparatory work is now in progress and it is hoped that the scheme can be submitted to the Ministry for loan sanction during 1965. It became obvious that the small community at Lunsford Cross and Potman's Lane could not economically be connected to the proposed main scheme for Ninfield and Hooe and accordingly the Council engaged a private consultant to prepare a small scheme for this area. Here again it is hoped that the scheme can be submitted to the Ministry for loan sanction during 1965.

Plans were also prepared for sewers and a sewage disposal works for Wilmington and towards the end of the year the Ministry approved the scheme in principle for loan sanction and it is hoped that work can be started on this long delayed scheme during 1965.

The Council, during the year, gave considerable thought to the question of speeding up the provision of sewers to those areas served by cesspools and decided upon the following programme:-

Staff Programme

Wilmington
Ninfield
Jevington
Polegate

Consultant Programme

Hailsham Northern Area
Horsebridge & Lower Dicker
Vines Cross & Ghyll Road
Sewage Works

It had become obvious for some considerable while that the sewage purification works at Hailsham, Vines Cross, Horam and Ghyll Road, Heathfield had become grossly overloaded and that it was necessary for major works to be carried out.

Towards the end of the year, Messrs. J. D. & D. M. Watson, Consulting Engineers, were engaged to report upon the Hailsham Northern Area, Horsebridge and Lower Dicker area in the parish of Hellingly and it is expected that their report will be available early in 1965.

Apart from the programme listed above, still there remains a dozen separate communities or hamlets which are in need of sewerage schemes and these areas should be dealt with as soon as possible either by the Council's own staff or by consultants.

Removal of Night Soil - Alfriston

It had been hoped that this service could be dis-continued by the end of 1964 but unfortunately this was not possible as a few earth closets in the village still remained to be converted into water closets. During the year the Council approved 19 applications for contributions towards the cost of converting earth closets and elsan closets into water closets in accordance with Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936. At the end of the year there still remained 11 occupied properties still with earth closets and it was therefore necessary to extend the night soil collection until 31st March, 1965 by which time it was anticipated that all occupied properties would be provided with water closets.

Public Cleansing

A weekly collection of refuse is made in the parishes of Alfriston, Eastdean, Friston, Hailsham, Hellingly, Herstmonceux, Jevington, Ninfield, Pevensey, Polegate, Westham and Willingdon whilst a fortnightly collection operates in the remainder of the district. It is estimated that 72% of the houses in the Rural District receive a weekly collection.

The Council decided to order a further vehicle with the intention that the parishes of East Hoathly, Heathfield, Horam and Waldron should have a weekly collection of refuse as from the 1st January, 1965.

With the continued building development, mainly in the southern part of the area, the refuse collection service was at times overtaxed and it seems obvious that in the very near future a further vehicle and more staff will be required to maintain the regularity and efficiency of the service. At the end of the year, the fleet consisted of three Dennis Paxit Majors, two Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic Vehicles and two Dennis Paxits, the latter being fitted with bodies of 18 cubic yard capacity whereas the other vehicles have body capacities varying from 32 cubic yards to 50 cubic yards.

The trend of buying larger vehicles has proved worthwhile in coping with the additional collection from the many new houses that have been built in the last few years.

The labour force, including the foreman mechanic and the driver of the Bray Mechanical Shovel, consisted of 38 men. The cost of refuse collection and disposal for the financial year ended 31st March, 1965 was £36,302, the equivalent of a rate in the £. of 5½d.

It is estimated that the amount of refuse collected averaged 12.5 cwts per thousand head of population per day.

In order to deal with the many requests for the removal of unwanted articles of furniture and junk, the Council purchased a new Ford Thames Truck which was delivered and put into service on the 1st April, 1964. Since that time this vehicle has been mainly used on the collection of articles such as pianos, furniture, gas stoves, old water tanks, bedsteads, and other old furniture direct from houses and thus prevented the depositing of such junk on roadside verges and farmland. Facilities were also given to traders and others to take unwanted articles direct the Council's tip.

The depositing of derelict cars on the roadside has as yet not presented a large problem and during the year only two derelict cars were collected from the roadside and disposed of at the tip.

Refuse Disposal

Refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at three sites, namely (1) Mill Lane Tip, Hellingly, (2) Broad Farm Tip, Hellingly and (3) Ghyll Road, Heathfield, the latter tip being used solely for the refuse from four parishes, namely, East Hoathly, Heathfield, Horam and Waldron. The tipping at Mill Lane, Hellingly was completely filled in by the end of September and the whole area has now been levelled and covered with a further layer of 6" to 9" of soil.

Broad Farm Tip, Hellingly is nearing the end of its life as a refuse tip and it is therefore necessary to seek alternative sites. By the end of the year, planning applications had been made in respect of (a) the Old Brickyard, Chiddingly Road, Horam and (b) part of Dicker Wood, Hackhurst Lane, Chiddingly. Provided planning permission is obtained it will be necessary for one of these sites to be brought into use during 1965.

It is quite obvious that suitable sites for the disposal of refuse for a long term period must be found and in this respect a large area of land is required as the total amount of refuse to be disposed of per annum approximates 11,000 tons.

No manual labour is employed at the tip and all work is carried out by the Bray Four Wheel Drive Mechanical Shovel and this machine has proved invaluable in ensuring that the refuse is properly dealt with and covered.

Salvage

No separate collection is made of paper and salvage but small quantities of such items are recovered at the refuse tip by the driver of the Bray Mechanical Shovel as and when time permits. The following quantities were disposed of for the amounts shown.

	Tons	Cwts	£	s	d
Non-ferrous metals		5	13	15	-
Scrap metal		6 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	17	6
Paper		18 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	12	-
Mixed Rags	2	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	32	11	-
	4	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	£	68	15 6

Street Scavenging

The East Sussex County Council intimated during the year that as and when the lengthmen employed on street cleaning retired or were required for other highway duties they would not be replaced. In their view they considered that the Council's function was to maintain the roads and footpaths and that the question of scavenging and the removal of litter therefrom is a duty to be performed by the District Council. Accordingly this Council carried out street cleaning as from October in the built-up and shopping areas in the parishes of Hailsham, Heathfield, Herstmonceux, Horam, Pevensey, Polegate, Waldron, Westham and Willingdon and five men were employed. It is envisaged that this service will have to be extended to other parishes as and when the County Council withdraw their labour.

Cesspool Emptying

This service continued as in former years, i.e. one cesspool emptier operates in the parishes of Heathfield, Horam and Waldron where the cost is met by a special rate levied in those parishes whilst two other vehicles empty cesspools in the remainder of the district on payment of charges of £1. for the first load of 750 gallons and 12/6d. for every other part or complete load taken at the same time of emptying.

These charges do not cover the cost of the scheme and it is necessary for a contribution to be made from the general rate fund and for the financial year ended 31st March, 1965 this amounted to £1,546.

It seems quite clear that the number of cesspools within the area is increasing yearly, mainly due to modernisation of the smaller properties in the rural areas and this in turn means that the demand for this service also increases. Throughout the year it has again been necessary for much overtime to be worked in order to give a reasonably prompt service.

Disposal of cesspool contents is normally on agricultural land or woodland remote from houses and streams and in winter months great difficulty has been experienced in finding suitable land. This has meant long journeys to satisfactory disposal sites.

	<u>Cesspools Emptied</u>	<u>Loads Removed</u>
Heathfield, Horam & Waldron	1,355	2,037
District Scheme	2,776	5,345

Housing

A start was made during the year on the erection of a block of four double flats and 34 single flats together with accommodation for a resident caretaker at Hailsham for the housing of the elderly whilst at Polegate a start was made on the erection of 16 two bedroomed bungalows and three one bedroomed bungalows. In both cases it is thought that completion will be effected by mid-1965.

Despite the non-completion of any Council dwellings during the year, it was still possible to deal with a few unfit houses either when they became vacant or when the families were re-housed on the occurrence of casual vacancies which are urgently in need of action under the Slum Clearance procedure but these cannot be dealt with until Council houses are available for re-housing the tenants required to be displaced.

During the year 83 applications were received for Discretionary Grants and of this number 65 were approved, one refused and 17 applications subsequently withdrawn. The average amount of grant per dwelling was approximately £290.

Of the 65 Discretionary Grants approved, 31 were in respect of houses owner-occupied, whilst 34 were in respect of agricultural service cottages or properties let at controlled rentals. Repayment with interest was made in respect of eight grants approved in former years. Twenty eight applications for standard grants were also approved during the year and these were mainly in respect of houses owner-occupied.

There is no doubt that so far as this district is concerned, the Rent Act, 1957 has not proved helpful in the repair of many of the lower rent properties, doubtless due to the small amount of rent increase permitted and the relatively high cost of carrying out repairs which would be necessary.

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair was received and details are given below in the following statement.

PART I - APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

(1)	Number of applications for certificates	...	...	...	...	1
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3)	Number of decision to issue certificates	...	...	...	...	1
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	...	...	...	1
	(b) in respect of all defects	...	...	...	...	Nil
(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	...	...	...	1
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by the Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule					Nil
(6)	Number of Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	Nil

PART II - APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

(7)	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation certificates	...	...					Nil
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objections	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	...	...	...			Nil

With virtually no houses available for letting during the year the number of applications for housing accommodation has increased. There are many cases of families with two or more children still living in one or two rooms whilst the number of caravan dwellers has also increased. Many of these families are in the lower income groups and it is quite impossible for them to purchase their own houses and thus they must wait until the Council can provide them with suitable accommodation. The Council are, of course, planning ahead with the intention of completing 500 houses during the next four or five years but on present indications it seems unlikely that this target will be reached.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of formal or informal procedure	10
Number of houses closed under Section 16 (4) and 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957	3
Number of families re-housed by Local Authority from houses the subject of Demolition or Closing Orders	9
Number of houses made fit after formal action under the Public Health Acts	2
Number of houses made fit after formal action under Section 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	4
Number of houses made fit under Section 24 of the Housing Act, 1957	1

Noise Abatement Act

Many complaints were received during the year from various householders regarding noise nuisance due to a variety of causes ranging from the barking of dogs, operation of circular saws, wood cutting and factory machinery. In some cases the complaints were justified and improvements were obtained.

In 1963 the Council did serve a Statutory Notice on the owner of some boarding kennels to abate the nuisance created by the noise from some 40 dogs but this notice was not proceeded with as the owner submitted a planning application for the re-development of the site. Unfortunately the necessary planning consent could not be obtained but by this time the Statutory Notice had become void due to the passage of time. The noise nuisance, however, did continue and it will be necessary for steps to be taken during 1965 for the abatement of the nuisance.

Caravan Sites

The caravan sites within the area continue to be well maintained and equipped. All of the larger sites, both holiday and residential comply with the model standards issued by the Ministry. At the end of the year, the number of licenced sites totalled 159, and details of the numbers of the caravans on the respective sites are as follows:-

Number of Sites	122	16	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1
Caravans on Site	1	2	3	4	5	9	20	24	25	45	50	65	75	100	150	250	364

There are many people who are now choosing a caravan as a way of life but many are forced to occupy caravans as a home in view of the shortage of houses to let. The use of caravans for holiday purposes is, of course, quite satisfactory but there are times when one feels that the occupation of caravans during the winter on a permanent residential basis is far from satisfactory when there are sometimes two, three or even four children living in a small caravan together with their parents.

Much time has again been spent during the year in dealing with the unauthorised caravans which are parked on farms and holdings around the district.

The residential caravan site in Hailsham for 50 caravans was completed and available to take residents in September, 1964. The Council had previously entered into a legal agreement with the site owners so that they could nominate all tenants of sites. By the end of the year some 17 occupied caravans had been removed to this site from unauthorised sites within the area.

Again it was necessary to take legal action against one farmer for allowing the use of parts of his land as a caravan site without a site licence and in contravention of Section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. He was duly convicted and fined £40.

The problem from itinerants and gypsies continued during the winter months when several were encamped throughout the district either on roadside verges or common land and it seems quite clear that the answer to the problem is the provision of a site for these persons. Unfortunately their habits leave much to be desired as is apparent from the large amounts of rubbish and litter which they leave behind them as they travel from site to site.

Milk and Dairies

Although there are 56 retailers registered almost all the milk delivered in the built-up areas is supplied through member companies of large combines. A number of grocers keep small supplies of a gallon or so for the convenience of their customers in the absence of local dairies.

Samples of untreated milk are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Brighton and the results of the examinations are set out in the summary below:-

<u>Biological Examinations</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
Infected with B. abortus	-
Infected with B. melitensis	-
Infected with M. tuberculosis	-
Satisfactory	30
	—
Total	30
	—

Methylene Blue Test

	<u>Raw Milk</u>	<u>Pasteurised</u>	<u>Sterilised</u>
Satisfactory	23	6	1
Unsatisfactory	4	-	-
	—	—	—
	27	6	1
	—	—	—

Samples from one herd of 70 cows were submitted but brucella abortus and brucella melitensis were not isolated.

Food Inspection

The licences in respect of the six slaughterhouses were again renewed for twelve months by the Council and all comply with the requirements of the Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty Regulations. None of the slaughterhouses are licenced for the slaughter of horses and no premises are operated as knackers-yards.

Although approved under Town Planning in September, 1962, no decision has yet been given by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the application made by the owner for a licence to use premises at New Barn Farm, Hooe as a slaughterhouse. It is understood that the applicant is still exporting large numbers of animals to Europe each month.

The throughput at the wholesale slaughterhouse continues to expand with a consequent need for further modifications to the premises.

Slaughtering in the district takes place on six days a week and occasionally on Sundays at holiday periods. As in previous years, there is considerable overtime on meat inspection. The Council have not reviewed their charges for meat inspection, these remain at the maximum permitted under the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

100% inspection was again maintained and the number of animals slaughtered during the twelve months was 18,607, viz. 7 bulls, 665 steers, 499 cows, 1,037 heifers, 1,207 calves, 10,415 pigs and 4,777 sheep, a rise of 1,805 over 1963.

As a result of these inspections and of other food premises some 23,742 lbs of various kind of food were found to be unfit for human consumption. Included in this figure were the carcasses of 15 cattle, 24 calves, 43 pigs, 37 sheep and 877 head of poultry.

The majority of food premises are maintained in good order but a small minority have to be the subject of frequent visits. The cattle and produce markets are regularly inspected as are the poultry packing stations of which there are now four in the district.

A number of complaints regarding allegedly unsound food were received from purchasers during the year but in only two instances did the Council feel justified in taking legal proceedings. Fines were imposed of £5. each on the owner and manager of a grocery store for selling a mouldy chicken pie, and a fine of £5. on another grocery firm for selling a mouldy cake.

A complaint was received regarding the appearance and taste of parboiled rice which had been sold and bought in good faith, not realising that it was intended for the Continental market. This was immediately withdrawn from sale at the shop concerned.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and
Condemned in Whole or Part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs Kids	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1,709	499	1,207	4,777	10,415	-
Number inspected	1,709	499	1,207	4,777	10,415	-
<u>All diseases, except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	14	24	37	43	-
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned.	146	71	14	129	395	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or cysticerci.	8.7	17.0	3.1	3.3	4.0	-
<u>Tuberculosis only -</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	-	-	-	23	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	.06	-	-	-	.23	-
<u>Cysticercosis -</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES

	<u>Number in District</u>
Bakehouses	10
Butcher's Shops	29
Baker's Shops	20
Cafes, Snack Bars and Canteens	83
Fish Shops	12
Greengrocers	26
Grocers and General Stores	148
Hawkers	16
Public Houses and Guest Houses	113
Sweet Shops	40
Ice Cream Sellers (plus 58 catering establishments)	165

Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963

Under this Act, four premises have been licenced for the boarding of dogs and cats and all premises were inspected during the year and found to be maintained in a satisfactory state and complied with the conditions laid down by Statute.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act, which came into force on 1st May, 1964, required satisfactory standards and working conditions for persons employed in Offices, Shops and Railway Premises. By the end of the year 326 offices and shops had been registered with the Council and inspections were proceedings to see whether or not there were contraventions of the Act. As was to be expected it was found that very few premises did comply with the statutory requirements.

Rodent Control

Again this has been a year much occupied by routine work. Major infestations have maintained their low level whilst the number of complaints of minor infestations tends to increase. This type of complaint does account for much more time being taken up in survey work making an increase in the number of block control jobs.

The main causes of this type of infestation are still found to be feeding of birds, badly organised compost heaps and the keeping of back garden chicken.

Mice infestations show no signs of decreasing and suspicious have arisen in a few isolated cases that a resistance to Warfarin baits was being built up.

No evidence has been found of Warfarin resistance in rats.

A new rodenticide for rats only, with the trade name of Raticate has been tried out. Trials carried out have shown it to be advantageous over normal Warfarin baits but the high price of this product rather limits its regular use.

Refuse tips, sewage works and other properties owned by Local Authority have been kept under control by regular inspections and treatment where necessary.

The low level of major infestations on agricultural premises is being maintained.

The occupiers of these premises seem to be keeping effective control of rats by carrying out their own treatments with Warfarin baits.

Enquiries as to the best type of treatment are received from time to time and any advice in this respect is readily given.

No Statutory Notices under Section 4 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, were served.

Number of properties inspected (including re-inspections)

Non-agricultural	4,285
Agricultural	621

Number of infestations found - Rats and Mice

Non-agricultural	(a)	Major	5
	(b)	Minor	692
Agricultural	(a)	Major	Nil
	(b)	Minor	9

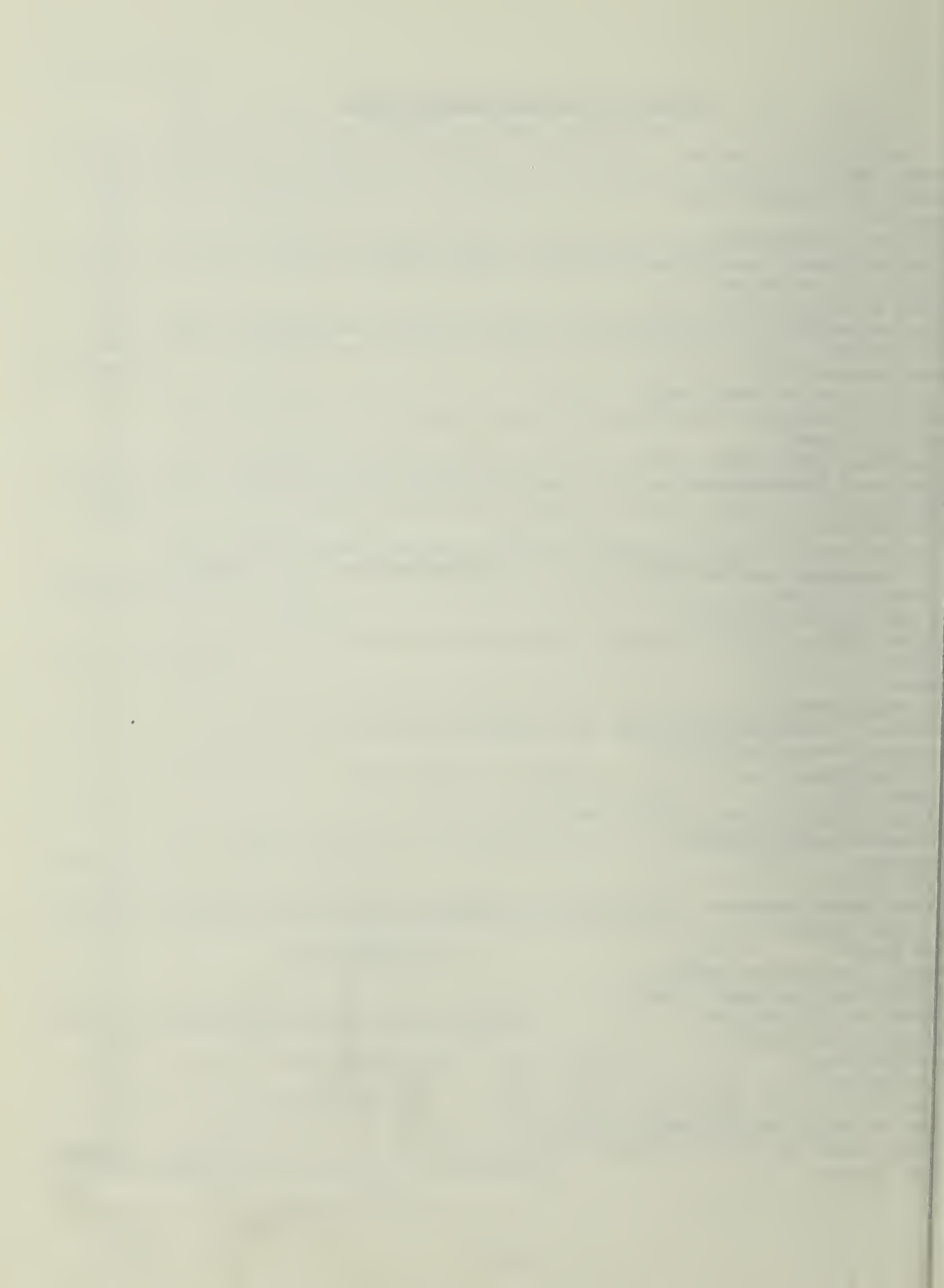
Number of treatments (including re-treatments)

Non-agricultural	723
Agricultural	4

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Housing Acts				358
Housing Act re-inspections				349
Complaints				115
Public Health Nuisances				250
Public Health re-inspections				143
Offensive accumulations				21
Keeping of Animals, Birds, etc.				51
Drains and sewers				580
Drains tested				101
Closet accommodation				50
Verminous premises dealt with				11
Infectious diseases				86
Rooms disinfected				8
Tents, Vans, Shed, etc.				531
Pollution of Watercourses				79
Water Sources				199
Public Cleansing				1,253
Water Analyses -				
Biological : Satisfactory	31	Unsatisfactory : 63	Total 94	
Cesspool Emptying				56
Rats and Mice Destruction				921
Swimming Pools				4
Schools				2
Markets				51
Milk and Dairies				59
Factories, Workshops, etc.				57
Smoke observations and visits				12
Slaughterhouses				1,424
Knackers Yards				-
Meatshops, Fish and Fruit Shops, etc.				285
Grocers and General Shops				256
Bakehouses				24
Bakers Shops				20
Catering Establishments				72
Ice Cream Sellers				51
Sweet Shops				23
Hawkers' premises and vehicles				9
Public houses and guest houses				47
Poultry Packing Stations				75
Housing Applicants, etc.				421
Noise Abatement				24
Licensing Act				2
Flies, Wasps. Bees, Ants, etc.				173
Animal Boarding Establishments				32
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act				146
Miscellaneous				219

8,650



APPENDIX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1964 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF HAILSHAM IN THE COUNTY OF EAST SUSSEX

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I of the ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	9	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	203	63	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises.	22	-	-	-
Total	239	72	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Section 133 & 134)

Section 133				Section 134		
Nature of Work (1)	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel (Making etc. cleaning & washing)	13	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	4	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains & furniture hangings	2	-	-	-	-	-